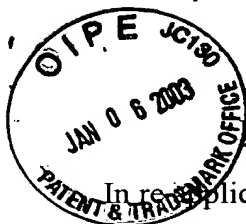


#6/A  
GAL  
1/14/03

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: application of: D. Gregory More and Stephen S. Stone Docket No.: 102014-102

Serial No.: 09/937,373 Art Unit: 3677

Filed: March 22, 1999 Examiner: Carlos Lugo

Assignee: The Advanced Products Company Conf. No.: 7864

Title: Vacuum Seal

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: December 24, 2002

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Signature of Person Mailing Paper

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 08 2003

GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.121

Dear Sir:

In reference to the above-identified patent application, this is a response to an Office Action having a mailing date of July 26, 2002, (Paper No. 4) and a statutory period for response that expired on October 26, 2002.

Appended to this Amendment and Reply is a petition for a two-month extension of time and an authorization to charge the undersigned attorney's deposit account for the required petition fee. If for any reason this petition and authorization should become separate from this Amendment and Reply, the Commissioner is respectfully requested to consider this a petition for any extension of time that is required to maintain the pendency of this patent application. In this event, the Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge deposit account no. 23-1665 for any fee that may be required to maintain the pendency of this application.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.